

The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network's



News from the Network

Connecting you to the volunteer community



November 13, 2008

www.bloomington.in.gov/volunteer

[past editions/printable format](#)

Greetings Volunteer Network Members:

It's been just about 6 weeks since we officially launched our new online volunteer matching system and we're very excited to see that the public has responded very enthusiastically to this new technology. The numbers of volunteer referrals on our website keeps going up, up, up! Here's the proof...Since our official launch of the system we've logged over 650 volunteers who have clicked that button saying "I'm interested in this opportunity". They're doing their part, are you? A prompt response to a volunteer's inquiry can make the all the difference. Please make sure that you are keeping track of your communications and getting back to all volunteers with a speedy reply.

~Bet & Lucy

The City of Bloomington Volunteer Network

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RSVP for the November Volunteer VIP Session – Nov. 18th

Be sure to put the next Volunteer VIP meeting on your calendar!



Topic: "Service Learning" – What is it and how can I make it work for my program?

Date: Tuesday, November 18th from 3:30-5 p.m.

Location: Bloomington Adult Community Center, 349 S. Walnut Street (next to the Chocolate Moose), in the upstairs library. Parking is available in the lot next to the building.

After a brief introduction to the elements required in college-level curricular service learning, including planning the timelines, the discussion will center on examples of the various types of service learning (project-based, service-based, etc.), highlighting both successful and not-so-successful examples, and the possible reasons for each.

Our guests from the IU Office of Service Learning will include Nicole Schonemann, the Director, Andrew Libby, the Assistant Director, as well as a student Advocate for Community Engagement. Please attend to share what you've learned and to pick up new ideas!

RSVP today by calling Bet (349-3472) or emailing volunteer@bloomington.in.gov

2008 Guide to Holiday Giving and Volunteering NOW AVAILABLE!



Thank you to those agencies who participated in this year's [Guide to Holiday Giving and Volunteering](#). The response from volunteers is already coming in for these opportunities. The Holiday Wish List will be published in the Herald-Times on Friday, November 28. Don't forget to pick up your copy!

TIP: If your organization has any volunteer opportunities that are Holiday themed, give your volunteer recruitment a boost and enter these online. Volunteers are actively looking at the calendar and the Holiday Opportunities quick search from the home page to find opportunities to give back this season.

Fill the Gap! Promote Your Winter Break Volunteer Needs Online

We often use Community Kitchen, Shalom Community Center and Middle Way House as examples of organizations that have to plan well in advance and beat the bushes to cover their volunteer shifts when the students leave over the holidays. It's a message that we work to get out to potential volunteers several times a year. We call the campaign "Fill the Gap!" If winter, spring and summer breaks are particularly difficult time for you, please let us know! Contact us at for ways we can help to get the word out, 349-3433 or volunteer@bloomington.in.gov.

Homeward Bound Kickoff this Saturday, Nov. 15th in City Hall



The Walk Committee is proud to announce their official 2009 kick-off campaign event on **Saturday, November 15th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the City Hall Atrium** at 8th and Morton Streets. The event will begin with Mayor Mark Krusan declaring a Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week in Bloomington, and will include a **hot dog lunch, live music by Craig Brenner**, and informational materials about 2009 corporate and community sponsorship opportunities, team recruitment, walk incentives, fundraising tools, and local homelessness educational materials. Learn More about [the Kickoff Event](#) or about [Homeward Bound](#).

GRANTS, FUNDING AND RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

President's Volunteer Service Awards – Rolling Deadline

The Volunteer Network administers this program locally for those 18 and under. While there is no specific due date for these awards, the Network submits them on the first of each month.

These awards are an excellent way to reward and recognize the young volunteers in your program, and it helps them with their job, college and scholarship applications! [Read More About How to Apply](#).

2009 CHAMPS Grants – Deadline Jan. 16, 2009

New opportunity for organizations which offer sports and fitness programs to underserved youth!

For the first time, youth-serving organizations throughout Monroe County are eligible to apply for the Indiana Sports Corporation CHAMPS Grants, which are awarded to not-for-profit organizations that create and execute sports and fitness programs for underserved youth.

CHAMPS Grants have been awarded since 1988 from the net proceeds of the annual Youthlinks Indiana Charity Golf Event, which is co-presented by the Indiana Sports Corporation and Indiana Black Expo. Since its inception, over \$1.7 million have been put back into the community, via the CHAMPS Grants, to support youth and the sports in which they play.

Contact information for the Director, Chris Brelage, can be found online at www.indianasportscorp.com. Click on the Youth icon at the top of the home page, then click on CHAMPS Grants at the top of the Youth front page. The Guidelines and Application will be posted on Monday, Nov. 17.

- Deadline to submit applications is Friday, Jan. 16, 2009
- Grants up to the amount of \$7,500 will be awarded in March 2009

Requirements for applying:

- Organization must be a not-for-profit 501(c)3
- Organization must provide sports and/or fitness programs to underserved youth in the ages ranging from 3 to 18 years old
- Organization must be based and serving the community in counties which had at least one company that purchased participation in the prior year's Youthlinks Indiana (In Monroe County's case, thanks to Hayden CPA in Bloomington!).

Special Grant for Youth Golf!

The Indiana Sports Corporation also has a special grant just for organizations that offer golf programs to youth, called the Michael G. Browning CHAMPS Grant, named in honor of Youthlinks' longtime chairman. Eligibility for this grant is the same as outlined above with the focus on golf related programming. The Evansville Junior Golf Program was the recipient of this program in 2008.

2008 Mayor's Award for Excellence in Civic Engagement Nominations Sought– Deadline Dec 5

In celebration of Be Involved Bloomington, Mayor Mark Kruzan announced that nominations are being sought for the 2008 Mayor's Award for Excellence in Civic Engagement. The purpose of the Award is to acknowledge and honor Bloomington residents, who, through their commitment to community service, have significantly improved civic life in Bloomington.

Individuals or organizations demonstrate excellence in civic engagement by taking actions designed to identify and address issues of public concern. Examples of such involvement include efforts to address an issue directly, working with others in the community to solve a problem or collaborating with City or County Commissions.

Nominees are being sought in the following categories: Individual Young Adult (age 25 and under), Individual Adult (age 26 and over); Group – Student Organizations; and Group – Community-based Organizations. Recognition will be given to people/groups with exemplary civic service and community involvement. All nominations will be subject to a selection process and awards will not automatically be granted following a submission.

Individual nominees must be residents of Bloomington; Group nominees must perform work or services within the Bloomington city limits. Individuals and groups may be nominated by a member of the community, City of Bloomington commission and committee members and staff, Monroe County staff and commission members.

Applications are available online at www.bloomington.in.gov/safe or at the City of Bloomington Community and Family Resource Department, 401 N. Morton Street, Suite 260. The deadline for submitting applications is December 5, 2008. For additional information contact Beverly Calender-Anderson at (812) 349-3560.

VOLUNTEER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

Volunteer Agency Spotlight Subjects Needed



Take your turn in the spotlight and let people get to know your program, your volunteers and you! Mercedes McDowell, our intrepid Bloomington Volunteer Network Intern is scheduling agencies to be interviewed for their very own Spotlight feature article. Look who's already been "[Spotlighted](#)": the American Red Cross, Boxcar Books, Boys and Girls Club, Bloomington World Wide Friendship, and more! So jump on board, schedule an interview, and get your profile featured online and in the Bloomington Volunteer Network newsletter!

If your agency would like to be included in a future Spotlight, contact Mercedes at 349-3501 or

mcdowelm@bloomington.in.gov.

CALENDAR

Dec. 12

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Grant Applications Due

Deadline to submit an application for volunteer project funding from the City's Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission.

(Application available at www.bloomington.in.gov/mlk)

Jan. 20

Volunteer VIP meeting

SAVE THE DATE! Topic: Technology and Volunteer Management. Peter Iverson, the Community Relations and Volunteer Coordinator for the Salvation Army, is the lead for this program that is sure to be on the technology tip!

National Days of Service in 2008/09

November 22: National Family Volunteer Day

January 19, 2009 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

April 24-26, 2009 Global Youth Service Day

April 19-25, 2009 National Volunteer Week

May 2, 2009 Join Hands Day

To learn more about any of the National Days of Service visit the [National Days of Service Calendar](#).

WEEKLY VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Get your volunteer recruitment efforts featured in the Weekly Volunteer Update! Wish you could reach thousands of interested potential volunteers with one simple task? You can!

[Submit your volunteer recruitment requests now.](#)

[Read the current Weekly Volunteer Update...](#)

Next newsletter issue: Dec. 11

We want to hear from you! Send feedback or information to volunteer@bloomington.in.gov.

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